

The Netherlands – September 2022

The Dutch hide business is operating more internationally as the local supply chain for cattle hides and vealskins has changed over the last 10 years. The production of lambskins has become very low and is not of any importance. Yearly veal skin production ca. 1.500.000. Cattle hides ca. 550.000.

Big meat groups like van “Drie Group”, “Vion”, “Pali Group” all have their inhouse hide plant and trading department or even a tannery.

Independent traders are collecting slaughterhouse productions with no ties to these groups and also collect fresh hides in the countries around the Netherlands like North-Germany, Belgium.

Main topic today is the discussion between our Government, farmers, industry about reducing nitrogen emission. It is clear that Dutch farmers are forced to find less intensive production methods or find innovation techniques to produce cattle, milk, crops with less emission. The Netherlands is second biggest agricultural product exporter in the World. All products produced in a relative small country with one of the highest population density in the World.

Most probably we will face a reduction in slaughter numbers in the next 5 years because of this.